

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-10

/072 W

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R 091550Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4695

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0641

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIAN PRISONERS ON ROBBEN ISLAND

1. DURING LAST WEEK'S DEBATE ON PRISON BUDGET, MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND PRISONS KRUGER SAID, IN ANSWER TO A QUESTION FROM PROGRESSIVE PARTY MP HELEN SUZMAN, THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING TRANSFERRING SOUTH WEST AFRICAN PRISONERS, CURRENTLY HELD ON ROBBEN ISLAND, TO JAILS IN SWA. KRUGER ADDED THAT, "EVEN IF I WERE TO TAKE ALL THE SOUTH WESTERS TO SOUTH WEST I WILL NOT SEND HERMAM TOIVO BACK AS HE IS ONE OF THE GREATEST COMMUNISTS I HAVE EVER KNOWN." KRUGER IDENTIFIED TOIVO AS A CAPE TOWN-BORN FOUNDER OF SWAPO.

2. COMMENT: THIS IS SECOND TIME THIS YEAR KRUGER HAS TOLD MRS. SUZMAN IN THE HOUSE THAT SAG IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING NAMIBIAN PRISONERS TO NAMIBIA. IN FACT, AS DEPT AWARE, WHOLE QUESTION OF CONTINUED USE OF ROBBEN ISLAND AS A PRISON IS UNDER STUDY PRIMARILY DUE, ACCORDING TO SAG, TO DIFFICULTY OF SUPPLYING IT WITH FRESH WATER. KRUGER'S STATEMENT REGARDING TOIVO REFLECTS GOVERNMENT VIEW, AS ENUNCIATED MOST RECENTLY BY PRIME MINISTER (HANSARD 4382) THAT SWAPO IS DIRECT DESCENDANT OF OVAMBOLAND'S PEOPLE ORGANIZATION (OPO) WHICH CREATED IN 1957

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BY CAPE TOWN COMMUNISTS.

BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: PINT, PINS, SF, WA, (TOIVO, HERMAM), (SUZMAN, HELEN), (KRUGER, J T)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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